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MEET MR. REICH (Page 5)

MIDWOOD AI

Vol. XLVI, No. 1 MIDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, BROOKLYN, N.Y. February 28, 1964

New Members Join Faculty

The faculty of Midwood High School has undergone changes recently; both leaves of absences and promotions have taken place.

Mr. Meyer, of the mathematics department, has been appointed to the chairmanship of the math department at Port Richmond High in Staten Island. Mr. Freedberg, of the art department, has become a junior high school supervisor.

Mrs. Tobin, of the social studies department, is now affiliated with the English Department. Mrs. Weisman, who is teaching in the Annex, is new in the department and is replacing Mrs. Phillips, who is on a leave of absence.

Mr. Albert Sayer, chairman of the social studies department, is on a sabbatical leave in order to complete the writing of an economics textbook. Dr. Alter is replacing him. Mrs. Janis, another member of the social studies department, is on a leave of absence.

A new addition to the mathematics department is Mr. Greenblum, who is presently teaching at the Annex. Both Mrs. Carajohn, a general science teacher in the Annex, and Mrs. Roslow, a biology teacher, are temporarily away from Midwood.

From Lincoln High School, the French Department gains Miss Laura Schwartz. Miss Moskowitz, of the Spanish Department, is on a sabbatical leave.

Mrs. Eva Kanof has recently taken over as chairman of the secretarial studies department. Mrs. Althoz, the former chairman, is on a sabbatical leave. Mrs. Joanne Isgang has transferred to Midwood from Tilden High School. Mrs. Sheila Levine has come to Midwood from Madison. Both are recent additions to this department. Mrs. Rose Shapiro of the same department has retired.

Two new members of the merchandising department are Mrs. Rotter and Mr. Blume. Miss Caplan, a newcomer to Midwood is presently teaching accounting. Mrs. Fuerchtgott is on sabbatical leave.

Mrs. Marinbach and Mr. L. Shurgin have joined the art department this term. Miss Scongerella is at the Annex, where she is replacing Mrs. Ober, who is on a leave of absence. Dr. Francis Feldman is another addition to the

Continued on page 2

Smith and Grant Plan BusinessConferences

The placement office, under the co-supervision of Mrs. Grant and Miss Smith, has planned various career conferences to be held this term. They will take place at areas away from Midwood.

Mrs. Grant states that the purpose of these conferences is to acquaint students with different professions and opportunities. They will enable the students to decide which job is the most suitable for them. Parents are welcomed at all conferences. Further announcements concerning the meetings will be made.

Some of the professions to be discussed are dentistry, retailing, professional nursing, engineering and medicine. Conferences, concerning different careers will be held in school May 3. Invitations are open to parents. Each career discussion will take place in a separate room.

The office also aids seniors, not going to college by getting them full time jobs.

To enrich the school programs, career representatives are scheduled to speak to Midwood students about the world of business. In addition, the career office is planning a tour of the federal courts March 3.

Boys over 16 desiring jobs in the Park Department for the summer, and boys over 18 who wish to work at the World's Fair should see Mrs. Grant or Miss Smith.

SENIORS TOPS IN SING; JUNIORS CHOSEN SECOND

By STUART SUSNICK

Midwood High School's senior class won the seventeenth annual Sing, presented February 21, 22, and 23 in the school auditorium.

The junior class won second-place honors, while the sophomores were third in the judging. Midwood's frosh placed fourth.

The theme of the seniors was "Masks." It describes how people often go through life hiding their true nature. The Senior Sing Commissioner was Callie Touger. Amy Siegel served as chairman of Senior Sing.

The Junior class' theme was "Toys." The sixth termers criticized the harmful progress in the adult world by bringing atomic weapons kits and voluptuous wind-up dolls to destroy childhood fantasy. Richie Wellikoff served as Junior Sing Commissioner. Rachel Lampert and David Soshuk served as chairman and co-chairman respectively.

Midwood's sophomore class' theme dealt with a psychiatric session. The

Sing Leaders in Action

sing audience was able to witness the interviews and the medical tests given to the patient. The Commissioner of Sophomore Sing was Rochelle Roth. The chairman and co-chairman of this sing were Harriet Hersh and Elinor Bartel.

The frosh patterned their sing on a loose adaptation of "Penguin Island," by Anatole France. They told the story of a near-sighted Peace Corps member stationed on an island which is inhabited by one-celled animals. Michael Kuba served as Sing Commissioner for the freshmen. Wendy Berloe and Miriam Beeber served as chairman and co-chairman for the frosh respectively.

The faculty advisors for this year's sing were Mr. Marvin Rosenberg, and Mr. Harris Sarney. Students were able to purchase sing tickets either from the sing commission or at Sing meetings.

Seniors Select 28 Celebrities

By LESLIE SILVERBERG

The Senior class of 1964 voted for this year's senior celebrities in their homerooms January 31. Louise Levene, and Linda Familant, co-election commissioners, conducted the voting.

The winners of the elections for Mr. and Miss Midwood are Bruce Davis and Carole Terner respectively. The seniors elected Marty Abrahams and Gail Noble as most popular boy and girl, and Dave Holzman and Bonnie Scherer boy and girl who did most for the school. The graduates selected Eddie Potter and Natalie Posner boy and girl politician, and Seth Abraham and Harriet Molberger boy and girl writer. The eighth termers chose George Heymont and Stephanie Pava as boy and girl musician respectively. They also elected Alan Milberg and Carolyn Higgins as handsomest boy and prettiest girl, while Stanley Jonas and Nancy Cohen were chosen boy comedian and girl comedienne respectively. Other winners were Chuck Monterperdo and Bonnie Gordon for boy and girl artist; Jimmy O'Brien and Sarah Rothchild for boy and girl athlete. The Midwoodites chose Richard Thorner and Amy Siegal boy and girl most likely to succeed and Rubin Kaplan and Sandy Lieberman were chosen best actor and actress respectively. Margaret Rosoff and Richard Breslow as boy and girl scholar respectively.

The pictures of Midwood's senior celebrities will appear in this year's Epilog with special captions underneath them. Four people were nominated for each category, but in the case of ties more than four seniors ran for a position.

FEW M.H.S. STUDENTS JOIN BOYCOTT

By HARVEY ALPER

The New York City school boycott came to Midwood High School February 3. Though the average number of students absent throughout the city was 44.8%, the General Office revealed that attendance her was 92.7%, indicating that out of a total register of 3,557 some 3,290 students attended school. The average number of students absent on one day is 10%.

In official boycott literature, distributed in front of Midwood, boycott leaders stated that, "We are committed to desegregation, equality in education, expansion of school construction, improved curricula, smaller classes," and that "We will no longer tolerate triple sessions, segregation of schools, shortages of and obsolete textbooks and equipment." They also noted that "Superintendent Calvin Gross promised a plan and timetable for city-wide desegregation. The promise has not been kept. Bussing is the only one instrument by which this goal can be achieved." Speaking officially, James Donovan, President of the Board of Education stated, "All these people proved is how easy it is to get children to take a holiday . . . They showed that parents could be frightened into keeping their children at home by a campaign of intimidation and threats of possible violence."

Student reaction to the boycott was brisk. Midwood's mayor, Bruce Davis told Argus in a prepared statement: "As mayor, I don't think I should express personal feelings. However, in this instance, the fact that I crossed the picket lines and am attending school today, should be evidence enough of my beliefs. Today's boycott was unfortunately directed at the wrong enemy."

David Ludwig, 319A, a captain of the pickets stated that, "We feel if we stay out, the Board of Education will act. We want a timetable and up until now we've been getting candy pills." In response to a question asking him why he didn't transfer to Bedford Stuyvesant or some other "segregated area," Dave stated "For my own egotistical reasons, I don't want to give up going to one of the best schools in the city. No one will approve our leaving . . . parents won't allow this."

Most other pickets refused to speak to the press. They stated that "you need a spokesman" and that otherwise they would make no personal comments.

Ben Wasserman of 332A stated that "It is not fair to bus kids for an hour a day."

Jack Ramoy 331A told **Argus** that "Dr. Bernstein gave us the program. I want to get things done. I believe in it, but I can't see staying out of school."

The boycott continued into the afternoon with many students joining the picket lines after school. Students resumed normal class schedule.

FACULTY . . .

Continued from page 1

school staff, and is in the Annex teaching required art.

In the boys' health education department, Mr. M. J. Feldman is on a leave of absence and Mr. S. Feldman is replacing him.

Mrs. Raphael, formerly of Clara Barton High School, is now at Midwood in the girls' health education department. Mrs. Drucker is on a sabbatical leave. Mrs. Daitz, the chairman of the department, is on a leave of absence. Mrs. Wunder is acting as chairman in her place.

The following teachers have recently received permanent teaching appointments: Mr. Sarney and Mr. Kolbert of the English Department, Miss Scongerella, of the art department, Mrs. Lauer, of the mathematics department, Mr. Berr, of the physical science department, and Miss Du Bois of the French department.

City Roundup . . .

The job placement commission is currently securing school office jobs for Midwood's students.

Those desiring particular jobs may fill out applications, preferably at the beginning of the term. Commission members then compare these applications to a program chart with requests from teachers for secretaries. These requests reveal the number of students needed by teachers for each period.

After vacancies are filled, it is the commission's duty to check that the student is working for his assigned teacher. Through the placement service, jobs, for regents week, during intersession and midterms are also secured.

Applications may be handed in throughout the term although, "jobs are harder to get as the term progresses." The placement service works on a first come, first served basis, except for jobs requiring special skills, such as typing.

Last term, Steve Kussin, the commission originator, tested the placement service with a small group of teachers and students. He filled 106 job openings. Because of its success, this service, with the Board of Estimate's approval, became a full-fledged commission this term.

According to Steve, the greatest problem in securing jobs is in conflicting periods. "The trouble is that students want jobs when teachers don't want secretaries." The goal of the commission is, "to find a job for every student."

It asks that students be patient and cooperative until the task is completed.

A memorial plaque for Mrs. Annette Brody has been installed in front of the biology laboratory. Students who perform exceptional service for the biology department will have their names inscribed on the plaque.

Mrs. Brody had served as a biology lab. assistant since 1958. She lost her life in an accident earlier this year. The plaque has been installed as a symbol of the love and remembrance Midwood retains for her.

The Around New York Commission is now selling tickets for the movie "Becket" starring Richard Burton and Peter O'Toole. The performance will be viewed Saturday April 11 at the Loew's State theatre. Student reduction tickets are being sold for $1.10 and may be purchased in B-71 during periods 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and P.M. homeroom. All money must be in by Friday, March 20.

Mr. Dank distributed notices concerning proper dress and deportment to the students at the start of this term. The pupils took the notices home, had them signed by their parents, and then returned them to school.

These notices informed both the pupils who attended Midwood High School and their parents, that proper decorum and dress must be maintained at all times in and around school. One of the rules forbade the wearing of culottes. This has long been a problem in Midwood because many girls insist on wearing them, in spite of the fact that they are prohibited.

Mr. Bruce Morrow (Cousin Bruce) of W.A.B.C. radio chose Miss Joyce Cashman of Midwood's social studies department, as a, "swingin teacher" on his program Tuesday night February 11, at 11:00 P.M.

The **Argus** is also pleased to announce the recent engagement of Miss Cashman (an ex-Argus member herself) to Dr. Edgar Lichstein, a resident at Bellevue Hospital.

Agency Finding School Jobs

FORUM PROBES ARMS RACE

The Midwood High School "New" Social Studies Forum discussed the problem of "Disarmament in our World Today" at its meeting February 14.

Ronald Yasbin, leader of the Forum, began the meeting by reading an excerpt from the late John F. Kennedy's book, **While England Slept.** In this book, President Kennedy had warned that a nation must be forever on the alert if it is to successfully repel threats to its freedom. Ronald noted that Kennedy had exercised this philosophy of vigilance when the Cuban crisis presented itself during his administration.

Karen Rockow presented the position of those people who advocate disarmament. She explained the effects of fallout and pointed to the waste which an arms race encourages. Continuing, Karen said that war industries can be converted to peaceful uses and that small nations presently making an effort to develop their resources, are threatened by the possibility of war. Karen concluded that future thinking must prevent war, not analyze past events.

Speaking against disarmament, Bernard Donefer stated in his extemporaneous talk that bombs should be built but not necessarily tested. Prosperity in the modern world relies upon the bomb and its branches in a war economy, so that disarmament might well throw the whole world into a severe depression. Further, in rebuttal to a statement of Karen's, Bernard stated that rockets built for war cannot usually be used for peaceful purposes. Finally, though Russia might disarm, Bernard feels that China would not.

Members of the Forum joined in a general discussion. Some advocated a freeze of weapons production, others felt that existing world problems must be solved before we can think of disarmament. It was noted that depression must not necessarily result as a product of disarmament because industry can be converted. Though unilateral disarmament was discussed, it received little support, while it was noted that perhaps the only way disarmament can be achieved is through a powerful world government.

Dr. Irving Alter, present during the meeting, posed several questions to the group. All Midwood students are invited to attend the Forum which meets every Friday, period eight in room 245.

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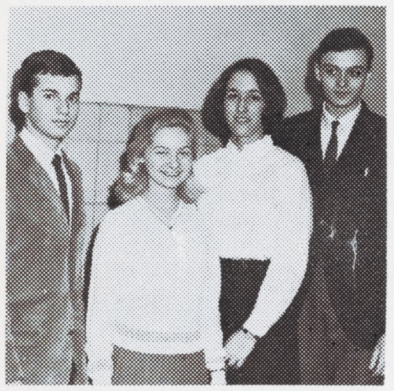
ARISTA, ARCHON NAME LEADERS

By PETER ZUCKER

Applications for Arista and Archon are now open to Midwood's juniors and seniors.

The newly elected leaders of Arista are Richard Spies and Marilyn Frankenstein. The secretaries are Anton Greenwald and Louise Forsyth. The new Archon leaders are Ronny Kisch and Wendy Roberts. Mr. Spieler and Mr. Blatt are the respective faculty advisers for these two groups.



Arista and Archon Leaders, Left to Right: Ronnie Kisch, Marilyn Frankenstein, Wendy Roberts, Richard Spies.

Arista, the scholastic honor society, is open to all students who have five credits of service per term, character beyond reproach, excellent attendance and punctuality, and high scholastic achievement. Sixth term juniors who wish to join must have an average of ninety-three percent for the two previous terms. The average for seniors is ninety percent.

Archon, the service honor society, requires an average of seventy five percent and fifty service credits. Forty five credits are sufficient if the student has served on the guard squad. However, having just the correct number of credits is not adequate. The service must be diversified, and be spaced over a period of a few years, rather than squeezed into a very short time span.

The purpose of Archon is to encourage the performance of useful service to the school and to reward service through acceptance into an honor society. Arista stimulates students to work up to their capabilities and to realize the importance of high scholastic achievement.

C. M. INSTALLS OFFICERS; SNCC RECEIVES DONATION

Midwood's semi-annual installation assembly took place Wednesday, February 26 in the school auditorium.

During the first half of the program, Dr. Bernstein introduced the guest speaker, Mr. James Monsonis. Mr. Monsonis is a representative of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. (S.N.C.C.) He was given a check for $750.00, raised from the proceeds of the Freedom Now Concert presented earlier this year.

S.N.C.C. has been involved in many large-scale civil rights movements. It is most active in the southern states of Tennessee, South Carolina, Mississippi and Louisiana. This organization participates in freedom rides, sit-ins and other activities furthering the fight for "equality for all."

Later in the program, Mixed Chorus, under the leadership of Mrs. B. Tillis sang the traditional "Gaudeamus Igitur," a song commonly sung at all high school and college performances. Geri Koch, a soloist from the music department entertained the audience by playing a selection on his clarinet.

The main purpose of this assembly program was to install all new major city and term officers, as well as new commissioners.

Mr. Monsonis administered the oath of office to incoming Mayor Bruce Davis. The mayor then gave the oath of office to the other officials.

Bruce installed: Bonnie Scherer, Comptroller, Linda Familant, executive secretary; Candy Falk, Kensington Coordinator; Ed Cortez, and Stephanie Sacks, sixth term president and vice-president respectively; Maxine Finkelstein, fourth term president and Sally Antman fourth term vice-president; Bonnie Brandeis and Geraldine Page, second term president and vice-president respectively.

The commissioners taking oath were: Eddy Potter, election commissioner; Ronnie Weiner, and Mimi Bender, finance commissioners; Diane Someth, college commissioner; Jane Dolkart, FDR commissioner; Marilyn Bruno and Elaine Fisher, publicity commissioners; Bradley Bernstein, ambassadorial commissioner; Civil Service Commissioner Leni Marquit; Club Commissioner, Carl Lazarus; Athletic Commissioner Ira Linzer; Orientation Commissioner Lois Levy; Social Service Commissioner Ann Bachner; Sing Booklet Commissioner Harriet Brand, Bookstore Commissioner Danny Fish, Newspaper Commissioner Steve Zelman, SIC Commissioner Bruce Diamond, Ticket Sales Commissioner Mickey Gindi; School Employment Commissioner Steve Kussin; Assembly Planning Commissioner Howard Roitman; Around New York Commissioner George Heymont; Codification Commissioner Leila Nussbaum; and Entertainment Commissioner Kenny Kushel.

Guidance Conference Meets; College Problems Discussed

By STEVE KUSSIN

Miss Margaret Bradshaw and Mr. Barney Cohen, conducted a general college guidance conference in the school auditorium February 4. Juniors and their parents attended in order to clarify problems dealing with the complex college situation.

Dr. Bernstein gave an introductory speech concerning planning ahead for college. Mr. Irving Lewis, President of the PTA also addressed the audience. Diane Someth, college commissioner, was moderator of the program.

The importance of keeping in touch with the college office was greatly stressed. Students are advised to listen to the public address system in their homeroom classes and watch bulletin boards for college news and announcements. The College Guidance Bulletin is another method of relaying college information to students and their parents. The college guidance service is also available in room 133 where students may seek consultation periods 4, 5, 8 by appointment. Information about college autobiograpies and interviews may be obtained during period 8, under the supervision of Mrs. O'Brien.

Miss Bradshaw led a discussion of the early appraisal program which allows a student to apply to one college in September of his Senior year. He is notified of acceptance or refusal before December. If accepted he files no other application, and reports to that college the following September. However, if the student receives a "no" or a "maybe" he may then file three more applications and wait until late March or early April to receive the final replies.

In selecting a college, students should keep in mind the following points: Is this college within my scholastic range? What have been the minimum averages and college board scores accepted? Does this college give accredited courses in my field? Is my family in the position to pay the boarding and tuition fees? Am I eligible for any scholarships? Students should be very careful in selecting colleges because only three applications plus a fourth for a municipal college are permitted.

EPILOG POSES PROBLEMS

By ANNE HYMAN

Epilog, under the supervision of faculty advisor Norman Shapiro has received a great deal of pre-completion publicity. As in previous years, the theme of the yearbook is supposed to remain secret. The seniors are to receive the book without any preconceived ideas. However, this year the tradition has been altered.

The **Epilog** theme "leaked out" and caused a few Midwood seniors some moments of "anguish." Richard Gans, Brian Nussbacher and Nancy Sietas circulated a petition protesting the theme of the assassination of President Kennedy. Richie said, "we had a total of 400 signatures within a half a day. We want the students to know that the yearbook is being kept completely under wraps." He, and his fellow protestors want two basic things, 1) the theme changed and 2) the right of the students to vote on the theme.

Brian Nussbacher said that, "after the petition had been sent around, we went to see Miss Shore. She did everything to help us. She arranged for our appointment with Mr. Shapiro and Dr. Bernstein, and spoke in our behalf at the Gans-Dr. Bernstein meeting. I don't know what more she could have done. Richie said that Dr. Bernstein favored the idea of having the student council vote on the theme." Brian added, actually we are now at a standstill. We are awaiting some sort of approval on our plan. By the way, the **Epilog** theme is definitely not going to be changed."

However, this reporter also had an interview with Mr. Shapiro, who "clarified" many details. He stated that "originally there were five students involved in this .All of them came to speak to me, and two of them saw their error and returned to apologize. Mr. Gans is creating an awful lot of fuss; he's brewing a storm in a tea cup."

When asked who selected the theme, Mr. Shapiro said, "the theme is chosen by the editors and voted on by them. It does not dominate the book, but rather, unifies it. The theme is New Frontiers. It is dedicated to the memory of President Kennedy. The President's death hit all of us, immediately and directly. It is totally appropriate, because it is not mere lip service but something with which we can identify.

In closing, Mr. Shapiro strongly emphasized "They (Gans, Nussbacher, Sietas) have nothing to fight about. If a person wants to have a say in **Epilog** let him join the staff." He added that "having the student body vote on the theme is no guarantee that it will be executed well."

Mr. Druin Discusses "The World of Order, The World of Chaos"

By LAURIE SALEN

The Sigma Society, devoted to the advancement of the physical sciences, met under the direction of Mr. Berr, for the first time this term Thursday, February 6.

Mr. Gilbert Druin, the Educational Director of the Brooklyn Childrens' Museum, lectured on "The World of Chaos and the World of Order."

Mr. Druin, who discussed the philosophical aspect of science stated that the purpose of science is to make order out of the chaos existing throughout the universe. The more advanced science becomes, the more man becomes aware of this chaos, and the larger his job becomes. In higher physics, scientists can measure the extent to which chaos exists. This measure is called the entropy of a system.

The Sigma Society, deriving its name from the Greek letter sigma, meaning "sum," represents the summation of all sciences. In keeping with its policy of introducing students to new facets of science, the club has heard from such speakers as Dr. Stephen Marion of Brooklyn College on radioactive fallout, Mr. Steinhandler on the chemistry of the eyes, and Mr. Berr on the geology of New York City.

The society, which started last September, is planning to publish a science magazine, "Andromeda." It is looking for students who would like to be on any of the staffs. Sigma meetings are held every Thurdsay, P.M. Homeroom and period 9, in room 245. All students are welcome.

EDITORIAL . . . . . .

There is no healthier indication of the future of our country than a spirited youth with strong ideals and convictions. Seven percent of the student body of Midwood High School demonstrated such strong beliefs by participating in the school boycott for integration on February 3. Over 250 students showed themselves willing to face the consequences of not reporting to school on that day to support their beliefs. A movement which has such staunch supporters behind it is indeed a lucky one.

It is truly unfortunate that the leaders of the movement for improved school integration could find no constructive channels in which to direct the energies of all those who belived in this cause so strongly. At a time when cooperation between the Board of Education and the civil rights groups was so important for a satisfactory integration program to be planned, the civil rights leaders completely ignored all attempts by the Board to arrive at a feasible plan for improved integration. Dr. Milton Galamison, an important leader in the drive to remove racial imbalance in the public schools, stated even before the Board of Education outlined its new program, that the boycott would be staged in any event, since the plan would not be "perfect." This is certainly not the proper attitude to be taken if so great a problem is ever to be solved.

The plan proposed by the Board of Education will not by any means end racial imbalance in the public schools. It is, however, a start. A problem as vast as discrimination against minority groups cannot be solved by one plan in one year's time. If the members of the civil rights groups would only work with the Board of Education rather than against it in initiating the proposed plan, a significant dent could be made in the problem of school segregation.

The civil rights groups seem to be blind to the need for cooperation, for they are now making plans for a future boycott. The boycott is not the answer to securing a satisfactory integration program. The problem of racial imbalance in the city's public schools is one that will be solved at the conference table, not on the picket line.

SHELLY BRAFF

MIDWOOD ARGUS

MIDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Boys and Girls:

One of the key issues facing us in New York City today is the matter of "integration" of public schools. No one can quarrel with the goal of improving education for **all** children in an educational environment where they can learn mutual tolerance and respect by living and learning together. We have tried to impress upon you the belief that in the opportunities provided in housing employment and education there must be complete **color-blindness,** as well as elimination of considerations of religion or ethnic origin.

However, although these are the goals of our city schools (and we certainly apply them in our own school), it is quite another thing to jump at easy or extreme solutions to a difficult and complex problem.

Before you participate in a boycott which, for the student who absents himself from school, is in violation of law, you must be sure that you really understand the nature and extent of the problem in our city, and the possible results that might flow from proposed solutions.

New York City is not Birmingham. So-called de facto segregation is not legal, or de jure, segregation. Neither the Mayor, nor the Governor, flanked by police or the Ku Klux Klan, stands at the entrance of any of our schools to keep Negro children out; and school zones are not established with this purpose in mind. Therefore, the attempted justification of violation of law by resort to a moral or higher law, as one might do down South, is quite inappropriate in this city and in this school.

While our public schools in so-called "ghetto" areas are far from perfect, to imply that they are educational wastelands or swamps where teachers are not doing a good job and where children are being deprived of good education is terribly unfair.

And so, this is a matter which should receive careful study. Action should come from knowledge and reason; not from slogans or emotional appeals. The vague and unrealistic demands of some boycott leaders require critical analysis before they are accepted as the basis for drastic action.

J. L. Bernstein,
Principal

MAYOR'S DESK

It is entirely inconceivable to include in the small space of a "Mayor's Desk," the many hopes and aspirations of a newly elected Mayor of the City of Midwood.

I would like to start, however, by expressing my firm belief that both the power and the success of a student government organization depends completely on how widespread is the support which it gets from the entire student body. Remember, student government is open to everyone, and widespread support is synonymous with participation and interest.

To me, success means offering to the students that which they truly want. The suggestion box is one direct line to the City of Midwood, through which I can learn of the desires of the student body. Every suggestion will receive a quick and personal answer. In a growing school new ideas are the key to a better school life. If these ideas become reality, then and only then is the City of Midwood a true success. Please make your ideas available to me!

Three projects already under way this term are 1) another Swimtrabasfootsoc dance, to be held on March 20 (tickets are now on sale) 2) a pocket billiards tournament 3) a recital series similar to the one last spring. Through a varied program, the benefits of student government will become obvious.

In summary, remember that student government is a concentration of the wishes of the student body, and that B-71 is always open to everyone. Please see me personally in B-71, or in your homeroom when I visit it, if you have any questions you would like me to answer.

BRUCE DAVIS

LETTERS . . .

To the Editor of the Midwood Argus:

In a recent editorial, vague attacks were made on the City of Midwood, on democracy and on me, for running unopposed for Kensington coordinator. I did not think of the editorial as personal, but as an undue attack on our democratic student government. Perhaps the editor's intentions were good, but his message was unclear and open to misinterpretation. Clarification is needed.

Running unopposed is not ideal. An opponent is always a welcome challenge. My unopposed re-election was called "reprehensible" by your editorial. Yet American history reveals that in 1820 President James Monroe ran unopposed and was re-elected (so was Washington.) Obviously there have been precedents in our democratic heritage for this unusual action, Democratically, one has the right to run as well as not to run for an office. If a candidate were prevented from running, the election would be indeed undemocratic.

The City of Midwood constantly encourages students to run for office. Our open application system is unique; a 75% average is the only prerequisite, and no past experience is demanded. There is no faculty screening and no need to present a petition for qualifications. Theoretically, therefore, I did not run unopposed since anyone could have written in any other choice or voted "no."

The editorial's true value was its pointing up the shame that only one person chose to run for this office. However, this fact does not condemn our entire government as undemocratic.

I am proud to be a part of the City of Midwood. We are famous for our true dedication to democratic ideals and the responsibilities entrusted to us. I am deeply distressed that **Argus** may have furthered the wrong impression.

Candy Falk, 333A

The Argus welcomes letters expressing student opinion. These should be delivered to room 449, and will only be accepted if the writer's signature and homeroom are included.

MID-HIGHS

Bonnie C. Gordon

Meet Your Teacher

Mr. Isidore Reich, chairman of the biology department of Midwood High School, became a teacher because he enjoys working with children. A graduate of Brooklyn College, he previously taught at Bryant High School and then became chairman of the science department of Long Island City High School.

Mr. Reich has always been interested in biology and in his spare time enjoys reading about science. He has a daughter and a son who is also interested in biology.

Comparing Midwood to other schools, Mr. Reich said, "The students are superior, but they don't realize their tremendous potential." Mr. Reich encourages students interested in biology to

Mr. Isidore Reich, Biology Chairman

enter the Westinghouse scholarship contest.

Mr. Reich is a member of the Gifted Student Committee of Biological Science Curriculum, which has published two volumes called **Research Problems in Biology.** He has just completed arrangements with Downstate Medical School for six children from Midwood to do research work with scientists this summer.

Mr. Reich believes that doing the research is the important thing, not the prizes. In time, the scholarships and rewards will come too. *Mark Bernstein*

DR. STRANGELOVE AIMS SATIRE AT WORLD WAR III

The start of a third World War is a constant fear to all American. Why then, did a United States officer issue orders to Attack Russia? This answer can only be found in the motion picture "Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb," the bizarre satire created by Stanley Kubrick.

The plot begins at an air force base where a paranoic colonel decides to provoke Russia into an atomic war. At first, the picture appears to be a behind-the-scenes glance at our government officials, but as the story progresses, it is evident that Mr. Kubrick had more serious intentions.

Peter Sellers brilliantly plays several parts, including that of the helpless President of the U.S., unable to stop the planes carrying the nuclear bombs toward Russia.

George C. Scott portrays the worried general, desperately trying to think of the code which will stop the bombers. The two men, together with a group of top aides, struggle to prevent the Russians from retaliating with their "Doomsday Machine," which can destroy all life within twenty-four hours.

The suspense builds as the bombers near their targets and the men at the Pentagon begin to accept the fact that the human race is doomed. The shocking ending will jolt even the most secure person and force him to stop and wonder if we are really as safe as we believe.

BARBARA LAZAR

Midmoods . . .

ELAINE SCHECHTER

The student opened one eye, glanced out of the window, leaped out of bed, turned on the radio, and began to pray. His eyes gleamed with anticipation, but alas, the radio refused to speak the hoped-for news. He sighed, pulled on his boots, and sloshed his sliding way to school where he evaded late-pass guards by explaining that his dog sled had broken a runner.

All day the pupils eyed the leaden sky, materialistically estimating inches and rate of precipitation. Earth science pupils became amateur weathermen as enterprising young bookies gave odds. The lookout in B-71 kept his ears trained to his transistor radio. "Six inches!" he jubilantly shouted over the fifth period bell.

Students gloated, the Board of Education fretted, commuters groaned, and sanitation men abandoned Brooklyn for Manhattan. The suspense built up. English classes left Robert Frost snow scenes to dream about the more realistic shades of gray, beige, brown, and black that would soon enshroud New York streets. The BMT broke down, and the Avenue J bus no longer existed.

Seventh period, eighth period, strech-ed on. A.M. sessioners waded home and girls contemplated the possibility of frostbitten kneecaps. Ninth period began with the lookout's cry of "Eight inches!" Suddenly it came: the loudspeaker clicked on, and the sober "May I have your attention please . . ." was greeted with cheers of delight.

"How am I gonna get home?" wailed one out-of-districter, who quickly received three invitations to friends' homes. Plastic-coated students floundered home, relishing thoughts of the next day's snow holiday as proof that Mother Nature is on their team.

FEMALES CHASE FREE MALES

These are the times that try men's souls, as women rejoice. It's leap year again! After four long years of anticipation, we girls can dispense with the formalities of feminine wiles to capture those tall, dark, and handsomes.

One need not stoop to subtle hinting about the Valentine that he forgot to send. Do not waste time with compliments on his favorite uniform of dirty denim dungarees, Good-Guy sweatshirt, artistically moth-eaten basketball sneakers and Beatle wig. Why spend hours under the hair-dryer when he'll only tell you that the best coiffure you'd ever created was the time your silken locks hung lifelessly from your unwashed head like a starched mop?

Following the custom of Leap Year, we girls are permitted to ask boys anything from their phone number to their partnership in matrimony. Humorously enough, these customs were legally approved. In an all male government in Scotland, in 1288, a fine was imposed on any man who refused a proposal unless he could prove his betrothal to another. France and Italy soon legalized the female leap year perogative as many other European nations followed in the fifteenth century.

Similarly, the legendary Sadie Hawkins Day provides for a village-wide manhunt, with a finders-keepers marital reward. However, the best way for high school students to observe this tradition is to give a Sadie Hawkins Party, having the girls invite the boys.

Whatever the outcome, we wish the girls luck, and the boys even more.

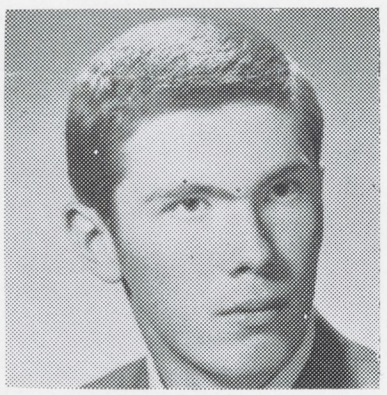
SPOTLIGHT

"I plan to begin a used book exchange, recital series, Swimtrabaskfootsoc dance, music in the lunchroom, and a pocket billiards tournament," stated Bruce Davis, the newly elected Mayor of the city of Midwood. "I will also take suggestions from the students through the suggestion box," he added. Bruce will discuss his program with the students as often as possible in the auditorium and over the public address system.

Although he is mayor, Bruce Davis does not plan to make politics his career. Since his main academic interest is physics, he plans to become an astro-physicist. He has maintained a 94 average for the past two terms and plans to raise it if possible.

Bruce enjoys handball and is captain of the Midwood Handball Team, coached by Mr. Fried. He is very proud of his team which was the divisional champ of 1963 and is striving to be city champ of 1964.

Bruce has definite opinions about integration and boycotts, and strong faith in our democratic traditions. "I don't agree with civil disobedience in any form," he explained. "However the fact that this form of passive protest exists is a good indication of the fine demo-



Mayor Bruce Davis

cratic environment in which we live." His views on democracy are carried out in the City of Midwood, which he professes is his major interest.

Cheryl Larrier

Goldberg, Elliott Star

If you are looking for students with extraordinary musical achievement, high intelligence, vivid personalities, and promising futures, you can stop your search at Midwood, for two such students are Michael Elliott and Stephen Goldberg.

Michael is the accompanist for the mixed and girls' choruses, and is a member of both the mixed chorus and the orchestra. Mike admits that he "feels most important in the mixed chorus," since "the music is more difficult," and "more of a challenge."

Recently entering a Brooklyn Philharmonia contest, Mike was chosen as one of nine finalists. The winner will play at a concert at the Academy of Music.

Michael's hobbies are reading, fishing, record collecting and chess. Although he is not sure of what he wants to become, he stated, "I would like to devote my life to music." He plans to continue accompanying in college, and hopes to attend the Eastman School of Music in the fall.

Stephen Goldberg lives up to his own belief that "a person who is only interested in one field cannot be happy." Steve is cellist and manager of the Midwood orchestra, a member of Archon and Arista, a contributor to the Argus, and an inventor. He also maintains a 95 average.

Steve recently received a scholarship on early decision to Cornell, which he chose for its fine music and chemistry departments. Although Stephen would like to teach chemistry on the college level, he said "Music is an outlet which will give me enjoyment my whole life."

A member of the All City Orchestra and the New York Youth Symphony, he has been playing the cello for seven years and often gives cello lessons after school. He has also invented a visual aid in the teaching of shifting on the cello, bass, violin, and viola.

Michael Elliott and Stephen Goldberg, both friends, have helped make the Midwood music department what it is today.

ANNE FARBER

NIMRODS HEAD TO SEASON'S END; SCHOENBACH AIDS IN COMEBACK

MARK LIEBERMAN

As their season neared its close, the Midwood Rifle Team was trying to get back into the form of last year's 8-4 season. Through the first 13 of their 14 matches, the Nimrods had won 6 and lost 7.

In a recent match, they upset a strong contending Madison team, which had beaten Midwood in their first meeting, by 4 points. Andy Schoenbach and Bob Krief led the Middies to an 819-815 victory, each shooting 169 out of a possible 200. Richie Thorner shot a 165 in the same match.

The Blue Jays were then defeated by Ft. Hamilton, 819-804. However in that contest Schoenbach, who has been averaging 175, shot a 185, the highest sore for a Midwoodite in any match this season.

In a postal match, the Middies ran over an inexperienced John Jay team 810-630 with Krief, Thorner, and Schoenbach again leading the squad. The match had been postponed because of a recent snowstorm and each team sent the other its scores by mail.

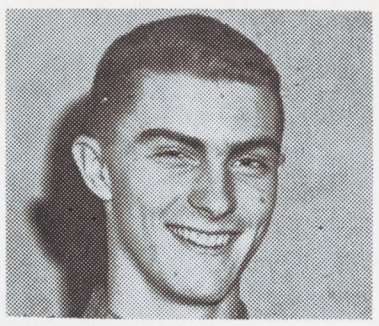
The Rifle Team is coached by Mr. Barney Cohen and led by captain Richie Thorner, a senior who averages 164. Bob Krief and Andy Schoenbach, both juniors, are the two co-captains. They are backed up by Richard Gans and Phil Sack, a newcomer who has really helped the squad. Jimmy Maxwell and Neal Hellman round out the varsity.

The Nimrods are looking forward to next year with anticipation of greater success because of the sophomore who will join the starting ranks.

Sportlight

HOWIE COHEN

Chris Dowdell isn't big as far as basketball players go, being six feet two inches and weiging 170, yet he is the big playmaker on the Midwood Five and one of the high scorers on the team. In the recent game with



Chris Dowdell

Erasmus, in which the Glenroaders missed an upset by two baskets, Chris was high scorer for both teams, popping in 26 points. This was not just a one game outburst, as evidenced by the fact that Chris has been averaging around 17 points a game. This is mostly due to the fact that he possesses a fantastic jumpshot.

Two of his most memorable experiences were the first Erasmus game and the Jefferson game, in which he racked up totals of 19 and 17 points respectively. Chris is a modest boy and emphasizes that the team operates as a single unit; and although they have a losing record they have been rewarded with many moral victories knowing that they gave their all. He explained that this desire and morale also accounted for the victories over some of the toughest teams in the league, such as Jefferson among others.

Chris has been playing basketball ever since grade school. Therefore when asked if he had any other interests, he replied with a smile, "Not really, I live and sleep basketball." Chris hopes to continue playing basketball at either St. Francis or Brooklyn College.

Victory in '65

BOB HIMMELSTEIN

Severely hampered by inexperience Midwood's indoor trackmen failed to pick up any medals in their first three outings: the Cardinal Hayes, St. Francis and Mayor meets. Looking ahead to the two remaining meets, Coach Bill Eisenberg is hopeful of improving the team's record.

Planning to put the emphasis on "team strength," Coach Eisenberg envisions 1964 as a year of rebuilding. Assisting their Coach in overcoming the problem of inexperience, Captains Billy Goodheart, Phil Zeltner and Joel Cohen have been working with the younger team members.

Graduation will take its toll from the Blue Jays, costing the teams last year's two standout medal winners, Goodheart and Bob Petrich. In addition, captains Zeltner and Cohen, as well as middle distance runner, Marshall Kalter and shot-putter Les Kazarowitz, will be departing in June.

A handful of juniors, however, will be returning to bolster the team's chances for 1964-65 season. These veterans will include sprinters John Fargnoli and Bruce Levine, miler Havery Firestone, quarter miler Fred Spar, and middle distance runners Steve Paige, Frank Tinghino and Steve Rose. There are also several promising sophomore prospects who, Coach Eisenberg hopes, may eventually blossom into stardom.

The teams thus far "disappointing season" will be ending with the P.S.A.L. Championship on Feb. 22. Unfortunately the Argus will be going to press before these last two meets take place. Therefore, these results were unattainable at press time.

Middies Scare Erasmus Trounce Madison Twice

SETH ABRAHAM

As the Midwood Basketball Team heads into the backstretch of its grueling 18 game schedule, every game seems to be against a powerhouse; and so it is.

After the Middies shocked Jefferson 66-59, they opposed the General's from Wingate. The General's controlled both boards, and swept itself to a 66-50 victory. Yet with heavy scoring by Jim OBrian and 'Chris Dowdell, the Middies remained in contention until a late scoring spree by the General's.

The Middies got a rest from their suicide foes by playing two tilts with Madison. In the first, at Madison, Midwood outshot the Highwaymen for a 55-42 win. In the second, the cagers slowed down their tactics to work a set play or two around Center O'Brian. Even playing it slowly, the cagers made it two in a row by whipping Madison, 65-53.

Then came the three biggest games of the season. Midwood was to oppose the Kangeroos of Boys High, the Dutchmen of Erasmus and the cagers from Jefferson. The Erasmus game, to this reporter, was the most exciting game ever seen at Midwood.

Midwood won the opening tap, and guard Chris Dowdell, who throws a sort of basketball curve ball, swished it through the cords. Erasmus, who has a shot or three, began to hit and hit and hit some more. First there was Frank Standard from the outside, Carl Screen from the outside, and Albie White from the inside. It looked as if Erasmus was getting five points for each score. At the end of the first half Erasmus led by the score of 32-12.

Then Midwood found a turning point. Johnny Mogulescu and Chris Dowdell began to tear up the Erasmus press. O'Brian began asserting himself under the boards, and more important, the cagers tightened their defense. First it was John Brennan with two straight steals with buckets, then O'Brian with a rebound and Dowdell with his curveball. Every time a Middie shot went up, it went in, and every time it didn't it seemed like there were 50 players to retrieve it. Again and again the Middies scored. Erasmus called time out to stop the momentum; Coach Fried kept throwing players in to continue.

First Erasmus tried a big team, to out-rebound the smaller Middies. Erasmus got the rebound, but they never did get the ball up past Mid court. The

Middies take a shot

Middies were pressing from here to eternity. With six minutes to go it was tied 63 all.

Then Erasmus got its chance. They stuck a small man in the pivot. When he got the ball he was fouled by O'Brian. O'Brian now had 4 fouls, one more and he was out. Fried took out the Big O for the last minutes. Without O'Brian the Dutchmen cleared both boards and then rolled in ten points. With Standard, from his corner slot, and Screen, from the key, Midwood did not score. It was 69-61. Then O came back in. He scored twice and Midwood again deadlocked at 71 all. However O'Brian fouled out with 3 minutes to go and the cagers lost their momentum. They lost 83-79. High scorers for the Middies were O, Chris and Johnny.

Kickoff

JEFF SOFFER

The Midwood High Basketball Team has really proven its potential during the season thus far, and can expect to do much more in the future. Although its 5-8 record doesn't seem too impressive at sight, many of its defeats were lost by seven, six, five, or even four point spreads. The team on an overall basis has been playing far above par. Its wins over Hamilton, Sheepshead, and Brooklyn Technical High Schools were pretty much expected; but clashing with Boys, Erasmus, and Jefferson, the Mid-five really showed their stuff. In the Boys High game, Midwood was edged by eight points, and in the biggest upset of the season, the Middies lambasted Jeff with a final score of 66-54. In the first contest with Erasmus, the Cagers were easily put down with a 72-56 defeat. But meeting on the seventh with Erasmus once again, their improvement and team work was really outstanding. They went from sixteen, in the first Erasmus game, to a mere four point defecit inside of a few weeks. This in itself is a tremendous inspiration to the team. With Mogulescu back on the roster, the slim margin should be overcome.

The Midwood Tennis season will be starting shortly. Last year the Netmen, after ten years, finally achieved the honor of being the city champs. Sixty-three was truly tennis at its best; but how will the team's losses of such standouts as Pete Lederman, Randy Rose, and the other racqueteers who graduated effect the team on the whole? These are questions which only time will have the answers for.

Netmen Ready; Begin Tuneup

JIM NOVICK

The Midwood Tennis Team, still two months from inter-scholastic competition, has started a vigorous pre-season training program in the girl's gym. For the next three weeks, the thirteen racqueteers will be loosening up by performing various exercises every afternoon and will then move to Midwood Field for a two week practice period stressing the essential shots in tennis. By the middle of March, the netmen will proceed to their home grounds, the Hi-Way Courts, to compete in the inter-scholastic matches. Each match includes three singles and two doubles contests.

This year the Midwood club, overcoming the loss of senior players last season, will rely upon Captain John Mogulescu, Mike Ginsberg, and Elliot Golinkoff for strength in singles. The necessary power in doubles will be chosen from the other varsity members including: Joel Brenner, Charles Cohen, Gary Cooper, Ted Feit, Bob Fuhr, Jim Novick, Marty Pfeffer, Dan Vartabedian, Jimmy Wexler and Marty Winkleman. The squad is under the management of Danny Weiss.

The city championship as stated by Coach Eisenberg, will only be won by "hard work and desire."